Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI:TBIO, AC (MURAYAMA, DR MAKIO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DR MAKIO MURAYAMA, NIH SCIENTIST

REF: URTEL 5694 AND 5888

- 1. NIH REGRETS OVERSIGHT IN NOT ADVISING EARLIER OF PROPOSED ARRIVAL ACCRA OF DR AND MRS MAKIO MURAYAMA FOR 2-3 MONTHS RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT WITH DR OKU AMPOFO AT THE PLANT CENTRE, MAMPONG-AKAPIM, CONCERNING PROPHYLACTIC USE OF CARBAMIDE (UREA).
- 2. DR MURAYAMA IS A SENIOR BIOCHEMIST EMPLOYED 18 YEARS BY NIH. HE IS WORLD-RECOGNIZED AUTHORITY ON STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION OF

HUMAN HEMOGLOBIN AND BEGAN RESEARCH IN 1954 ON ETIOLOGY SICKLE CELL DISEASE (SCD) AS A RESEARCH FELLOW WITH NOBEL LAUREATE PROFESSOR LINUS PAULING.

3. PURPOSE OF TEMPORARY DUTY IS TO PERMIT HIM TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDY ON "PROPHYLACTIC USE OF ORAL CARBAMIDE (UREA) FOR SICKLE CELL DISEASE (SCD) CRISIS AND TO SECURE DOCUMENTED CLINICAL MATERIAL FOR CONTINUED STUDIES ON "SICKLING COUNCLASSIFIED

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FACTOR." STUDY WILL PERMIT DR MAURAYAMA TO WORK WITH GHANAIAN

PHYSICIANS TO INVESTIGATE CRISIS INCIDENT REDUCTION IN 30 MATCHED PAIRS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN WITH HOMOZYGOUR SS, USING SCIENTIFICALLY CONTROLLED STUDIES.

4. ACCORDING TO DR MURAYAMA, BENEFITS OF STUDY ARE 1) READY AVAILABILITY OF CLINICALLY SELECTED TEST PATIENTS, 2) ESTABLISHMENT OF STRONG, ON-GOING COLLABORATION BETWEEN HIS LABORATORY AND A CLINIC AL SITUATION NOT AVAILABLE ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD, AND 3) ACCELERATION AND OVERALL IMPROVEMENT OF QUALITY RESULTS OBTAINABLE FROM STUDIES.

- 5. NIH UNDERSTANDS PROJECT HAS SUPPORT OF GHANAIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING PRESENT AND FORMER GHANAIAN AMBASSADORS TO U.S. ALSO UNDERSTAND REVIEW COMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY PLANT CENTRE TO PROTECT RIGHTS OF PATIENTS ENGAGED INCLINICAL RESEARCH PROJECT.
- 6. NIH PROVIDING SALARY AND RELATED TRAVEL COSTS OF DR. MURAYAMA, WHO IS TRAVELLING ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS, HIS RESEARCH BEING RELATED TO WORK AT NIH. OFFICIAL CHARGES TO PROJECT SHOULD BE BILLED TO NIH COMMON ACCOUNT NO. 6-8322570 (TQ) 22.41.
- 7. NIH HAS NO INFORMATION RE AIR WAY BILL NO. 12553336452 DUE AUGUST 3 BUT NOT ARRIVED ON SEA FREIGHT DUE AUGUST 21. SUGGEST YOU CONTACT DR. MURAYAMA FOR INFORMATION. ROBINSON

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TAGS: OSCI, TBIO, GH, (MURAYAMA, MAKIO)
To: ACCRA

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006